

THE NICARAGUAN BILL PASSES THE HOUSE

All Attempts to Amend It Were Overwhelmingly Defeated

The Morris Project, Authorizing the President to Treat With the Panama People, Did Not Develop the Strength That Was Expected—The Hepburn Measure on the Last Vote Opposed by Only Two Members—How an Inter-oceanic Waterway Is to Be Built.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The Hepburn Nicaragua canal bill, passed the house late this afternoon by a practically unanimous vote. Only two members out of 310 voted against it. Fletcher, republican of Minnesota, and Lassiter, democrat of Virginia, were the two voting in the negative. The opposition to committing the government to the Nicaragua route attempted to secure amendments to lodge with the president the discretionary power to purchase and complete the Panama canal. If it could be purchased for \$40,000,000. The first came on the first vote, when the advocates of the alternative route polled 102 against 170 votes. At each succeeding vote their strength dwindled until Mr. Cannon of Illinois, under whose leadership the fight was made, was unable to get any more votes on his motion to recommit. All the other amendments failed and the bill passed exactly as it came from the committee. None of the votes except that on the final passage of the bill, was a record vote.

The debate which preceded the taking of the final vote was made memorable by a clash between Mr. Hepburn, the author of the bill, and Mr. Cannon, of the opposition committee. On several previous occasions they had measured swords over canal legislation. Two years ago a similar bill passed by 234 to 36. The bill as passed today authorizes the president to secure from the states of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, in behalf of the United States, the control of such a portion of territory belonging to the said states as may be desirable and necessary, on which to excavate, construct and operate a canal suitable to the wants of modern navigation and commerce, and appropriate such a sum as may be necessary to secure control of said territory.

Section 2 authorizes the president, after securing control of the needed territory, to direct the secretary of war to construct such a canal from the Caribbean sea at a point near Greytown, in Nicaragua, by the way of Lake Nicaragua, to a point on the Pacific ocean near Reito, and also to construct proper harbors at the terminals of said canal and to make the necessary provision for the defense of the canal and its harbors.

Sections 3 and 4 authorize the president to make such surveys as may be necessary and employ such persons in the construction of the canal as may to him seem wise, and directs that in the construction of the canal the river San Juan and the lake of Nicaragua shall be used so far as they are available.

Section 5 authorizes the president to guarantee to the states of Costa Rica and Nicaragua the use of the canal and the harbors upon terms to be agreed upon, for all vessels owned by the said states and by the citizens thereof.

The last section makes a present appropriation of \$10,000,000 to carry on this work, and authorizes the secretary of war to enter into proper contracts for such material and work as may be deemed necessary therefor; such work and material to be paid for as appropriations may be made from time to time. This section fixes the aggregate cost at \$100,000,000, to be drawn from the treasury on the warrants of the president.

Mr. Atkinson of Georgia, the first speaker today, urged the passage of the Hepburn bill without amendment. He argued that the time had come for action and that any delay would only result in delaying the commencement of the canal. If the Panama company had an offer to make which we could accept, he said, there would be time enough to take advantage of it when the bill is pending in the senate or later in conference.

Mr. Weston also argued that the bill should be passed without amendment. If the Morris amendment were adopted, he said, the canal would become a conditional project surrounded by doubt and difficulties which might doom it to final failure owing to international complications. He declared that it was a rather strange coincidence that those who now wanted to amend the bill had in the past opposed the passage of any bill. He recalled the Morris amendment as a modern Trojan horse. Mr. Weston said he did not favor the amendment to fortify the canal. He believed that such an amendment favored more of egotism and sentimentality than sound and salutary sense. He called it a "silly amendment."

At this point, upon the request of Mr. Davis of Florida, the time for general debate was extended until 2:20 p. m. Mr. Sherman of Florida spoke in favor of the Hepburn bill.

CANNON'S OPPOSITION.

Mr. Cannon of Illinois, chairman of the appropriations committee, then took the floor. Mr. Cannon, discussing the language of the bill, asked what was meant by authorizing the president to "retain full control over the land" upon which the canal was to be built. Did it mean "purchase and ownership of miles of property owned by speculators, both American and Nicaraguan?" With great emphasis Mr. Cannon declared that, in his judgment, the \$100,000,000 appropriation was a "careful language" of it would cause a claim that it gave the president full power not only to pay Nicaragua and Costa Rica, but the Maritime Canal company and Nicaraguan speculators, how much he could not tell. It might be five, ten or twenty millions. He denounced what he termed the undue haste of those who wanted to build this canal "between now and sunrise tomorrow." He also objected to the authorization of the bill contained in negotiating contracts for the whole work. Mr. Cannon said he would not support the Morris amendment, and if it failed, he would move to recommit the bill with the amendments he had suggested.

Mr. DeArmond of Missouri said the question before the American people was not as to whether congress would pass a bill for an isthmian canal, but whether the bill be matured and proper when passed. If confidence existed in the president, why should he not be given the opportunity to negotiate with Colombia or Nicaragua, according to the information in his possession? Alternative authority should enable him to make better terms.

Experts differed as to the advantage of the two routes. Why not give the president discretion to select? Neither word or risk would be involved in it. The bill, he urged, needed maturing. It was silent on many points. Were the army engineers to build the canal or was there to be one gigantic syndicate whose influence, bailed perhaps by certain might, would extend over many years? Were the principles of civil service to obtain or were political considerations to govern?

Mr. Vandiver of Missouri and Mr. Hooper of Mississippi advocated the passage of the unamended Hepburn bill.

SARCASTIC MR. HEPBURN.

Mr. Hepburn answered the criticisms addressed against the bill during the debate, directing much time to Cannon. The gentleman from Illinois, he said, demanded clearness and definiteness, yet he purposed to support the Morris amendment, which Mr. Hepburn pointed out, was vague and indefinite. He had impudently had motives to no one, but he believed there were forces working for delay.

"I do not impugn the motives of the gentleman from Illinois," said he, "when he says he is in favor of this canal. In a parliamentary sense I am convinced, yet I am free to confess only

SPANISH MINES SHUT DOWN.

Castagena, Spain, Jan. 9.—In consequence of the heavy fall in the price of ore and the high taxes, many mines in this district have shut down. The enforced idleness is almost certain to lead to disturbances.

INDIAN OUTBREAK

Feared Among the Cheyennes—Troops Sent For.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 9.—A special to the Miner from Miles City says: Fort Keegan today received a telegram from Forsyth asking that some soldiers be immediately dispatched to the Lane Deer Indian agency, that trouble is brewing and an outbreak of the Cheyennes is imminent. If it has not already occurred. The request was communicated to department headquarters and the soldiers at the fort are making preparations for immediate departure on receipt of orders.

The disturbance was originated by an Indian named White being sent for by the agent in charge. The redskin refused to obey the summons and an Indian posse was dispatched to bring him in. White opened fire upon the posse, killing an Indian policeman. The posse then turned upon his own wife and daughter, killing both, and finally shooting himself, dying instantly.

KENTUCKY'S SENATOR

M'CREARY IS CHOSEN

He Will Beat Senator Deboe Next Tuesday.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 9.—Ex-Governor and ex-Representative James H. McCreary was tonight nominated by the democratic legislative caucus to be United States senator. He received the nomination over Circuit Judge James D. Cantill of Scott county by a vote of 62 to 37, nearly two-thirds of the democratic members. He will be elected by the general assembly in joint session next Tuesday over Senator Deboe, who was re-elected by his party for re-election. The democratic caucus was harmonious throughout.

DINNER TO LABOR

AT WHITE HOUSE

Washington, Jan. 9.—The president had with him at luncheon today the attorney general, the secretary of agriculture and a notable gathering of representatives of organized labor. They were F. P. Sargent, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; E. E. Clark, grand chief conductor of the Order of Railway Conductors; P. H. Morrison, grand master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; H. B. Parnham, president of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, and A. B. Youngman, first assistant to P. M. Arthur, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

ANOTHER RIOT.

Niagara, N.Y., Jan. 9.—It is reported here that a revolution has broken out in Nicaragua. President Avelar, of that republic, is said to be a prisoner.

COLLECTING DATA

IN KANSAS CITY

Interstate Commerce Commission Looking Into Grain Rates.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 9.—The interstate commerce commissioners spent six hours here today and examined port witnesses regarding grain rates from western points to the Atlantic seaboard and other eastern destinations. They returned to Chicago tonight after announcing that the investigation would be resumed in that city on January 21, when it is believed, several railway officials will be called.

The expected rush of railroad officials and grain shippers today to confess that they had made and received freight rebates or cut rates did not occur. In fact, what information was elicited was obtained only after persistent questioning on the part of the commissioners. The most direct admission was that of John A. Robinson of the firm of Hall & Robinson of Kansas City, which controls the export grain business of the Missouri Pacific.

Robinson admitted that W. C. Smith, freight traffic manager of the Missouri Pacific, made him a rate on export grain of from 2 to 5 cents per hundred lower than the published export tariff. Other testimony went to show that Kansas City was made to suffer from discrimination by through lines because of the arbitrary rate on grain in effect here.

GRAPE-NUTS

are served for breakfast

At Grocers

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JUDGE STREET'S CASE

ENDED NEXT WEEK

Held for Examination on Documentary Evidence

Favorable Reports by the Senate Committee on Territories on the Nomination of Secretary Stoddard and Others.

Washington, Jan. 9.—(Special.)—Attorney General Knox announced today in the case of Chief Justice Street of Arizona, whose hearing was concluded yesterday, that a decision would be reached the latter part of next week. No intimation could be given of the result, as much of the evidence submitted was documentary and has not yet been examined.

Chairman Lacy of the house committee on lands today introduced bills setting aside an national park certain territory in Arizona, including cliff dwellings and petrified forests.

The senate committee on territories today reported favorably the nominations of Isaac T. Stoddard, to be secretary of Arizona; Miguel A. Otero, to be governor of New Mexico; Mr. Reynolds, to be secretary of New Mexico, and Thomas Ferguson, to be governor of Oklahoma.

CHARGES FAILED.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The senate committee on territories spent the greater part today investigating charges made against M. A. Otero in connection with his nomination as governor of New Mexico. Those charges were formulated by ex-Delegate Calton, but were denied by William M. Rogers of Santa Fe. They asserted that under Otero had become a mere clique and they also attack the governor on his record. After hearing all the charges the committee voted unanimously to recommend Otero's confirmation.

IMMEDIATE WEATHER.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Arizona—Fair Friday and Saturday; variable winds. Wyoming—Fair Friday and Saturday; winds shifting to northerly. New Mexico—Generally fair Friday and Saturday; probably colder Saturday; westerly to northerly winds.

CENTRAL AMERICA

IN UNION OR WAR

The Object of an Intended Coalition of Four States.

Berlin, Jan. 9.—The Klings Journal, which sometimes prints exclusive news, publishes the following dispatch today from Hamburg:

"Nicaragua is making extensive war preparations. She has purchased the German warship *Armenius*, is negotiating for the purchase of two other warships and has bought cannon, rifles and ammunition amounting to the value of 1,500,000 marks through the Nicaraguan minister at Berlin, Senor Roela. A certain Hamburg bank loaned the money for the purchase referred to."

"The object of these preparations is that Nicaragua, Honduras and Salvador intend to attack Guatemala and Costa Rica and compel them to join the proposed Central American union."

COMMERCIAL

AND FINANCIAL

The Condition of the Markets Yesterday.

New York, Jan. 9.—Speculation came to a halting place today and showed much hesitation about branching out into new courses. Closing: Atchafalpa, 28½; preferred, 28½; C. & O. 40½; C. & S. 14½; preferred, 14½; second preferred, 14½; C. C. & S. 14½; Erie, 11½; Great Northern, 18½; Manhattan, 12½; Metropolitan, 10½; Missouri Pacific, 30½; Pennsylvania, 19½; St. L. & S. P. 61½; preferred, 61½; second preferred, 59½; St. Paul, 16½; Southern Pacific, 60; Union Pacific, 16½; New Jersey Central, 12½; New York Central, 16½; Amalgamated Copper, 69½; Anaconda, 30½; Sugar, 12½; United States Steel, 42½; preferred, 42½; Western Union, 21.

BONDS.

United States refunding 28, registered, 103½; coupon, 103½; 28, registered, 107; coupon, 108½; new 48, registered and coupon, 117½; 58, registered, 107½; coupon, 107½. Silver, 56½; Mexican dollars, 44½.

METALS.

New York, Jan. 9.—Copper sold in London as low as 46, 178, 6d, which is the low record price, but then closing prices with yesterday's financial figures. Spot closed at 47, 108 and futures at 47, 158, 6d. New York closed at 47, 112 for electrolytic and 47, 115 for casting. Lead was quiet and unchanged here, as well as in London. New York closed at 46 and London at 46, 108. Spelter was dull and unchanged here at 44 and at London unchanged at 46, 108.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

Chicago, Jan. 9.—After being rushed by a bull movement to the high point of the year, wheat slumped badly, lost 1c and took the spirit out of the bulls in the other pits. May wheat closed at a net loss of 3½¢. May corn was 3½¢ off and May oats 4½¢ lower. Provisions closed unchanged to a shade lower.

May wheat opened at 84½¢@84½¢, went to 84½¢ and closed at 83½¢@83½¢. May corn opened at 67½¢@67½¢ and closed at 66½¢@66½¢. May oats opened at 47½¢ and closed at 46½¢.

WOOL AND HIDES.

New York, Jan. 9.—Hides steady. Wool dull.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Of the Termination of the Chilean-Argentine Quarrel.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Garcia Merou, the Argentine minister in Washington, has just received the following telegram from his government:

"I have the honor to communicate to your excellency that the minister of

Chili in Buenos Ayres presented yesterday to this department a note of the protocol about policies in the same sense which was given to it by this government. With this legislation all the incidents are definitely terminated. Signed: D. Alvea, Minister Foreign Affairs."

"THE PATRIOT IN PEACE."

Mr. Bryan at the Boston Jackson Day Dinner.

Boston, Jan. 9.—William J. Bryan arrived in Boston this afternoon from New Haven, the guest of the Commonwealth club. A big crowd was at the station to see the distinguished visitor, and when he stepped from the train and passed along the platform he was loudly cheered. He was recognized on the street and heartily greeted. At the banquet tonight Mr. Bryan was again the central figure.

Mr. Bryan's subject was "The Patriot in Peace," and when he was introduced everyone arose and cheered. Mr. Bryan said:

"I have confidence that in our political battles of the future we shall fight them on a higher plane than in the past. The Spanish war taught us a lesson, that there is patriotism in the nation sufficient for any time of need and that there is no portion of a political party that does not have at heart the nation's welfare. There is but one basis upon which peace can be built, and that is justice. I have not been able to find a definition of patriotism that satisfies me. It is that love of country which leads a man to give his country that which his country needs at the time it needs it. I regard the duties of peace as imperative as the duties of war."

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DAY IN THE SENATE MOSTLY EXECUTIVE

Confirmation of Two New Members of the Cabinet

The Report of the Committee Having Charge of the Inquiry Into the Heistand Hemp Scandal—Committee Finds That General Corbin and Other Government Officials Were Not Implicated and That There Was No Promise to Adjust Tariff in Interest of Combine.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The opening session of the senate today was devoted to routine business. After an executive session, the senate at 1:50 p. m. adjourned until Monday. In the executive session the senate confirmed the nomination of L. M. Shaw to be secretary of the treasury and Henry C. Payne to be postmaster general. The confirmation of Governor Shaw was accomplished without comment, but there was some controversy over the action of the committee on postoffice in reporting Mr. Payne's nomination without going through the formality of a meeting.

Senator Rawlins stated that he had desired to appear before the committee for the purpose of requesting that an inquiry be instituted into the charge that Mr. Payne had been interested in efforts to secure leases for the purpose of prospecting for minerals on the Indian reservations in Utah, having been president of the Florence Mining company. In this connection, interesting letters presented to the senate by Senator Rawlins yesterday, were read.

Mr. Spooner as the representative of Mr. Payne's own state, replied to this statement by reading a letter addressed to himself by Mr. Payne and dated several weeks back, in which Mr. Payne said his connection with the Florence company had terminated two years ago, and that at present he had no interest, direct or indirect, immediate or remote, in that corporation.

Mr. Rawlins thereupon said the explanation was satisfactory, and after some further criticism of the committee of the manner in which the report was made, mainly by an informal canvass, the nomination was unanimously confirmed.

The senate committee on military affairs today unanimously agreed upon a report in the case of charges against Lieutenant Colonel H. C. Heistand of the army, and the report was presented to the senate by Senator Cockrell as soon as that body convened. The report contains a concise statement of the facts in the case as brought out by the inquiry and casts ascription upon any of the officers of the government whose names are mentioned in connection with the case. The report cites the charge quoted in the resolution of inquiry, that Colonel Heistand in 1899, engaged in forming a combination for the purpose of controlling the hemp product of the Philippine islands, and that the names of Assistant Secretary Melickjohn, Assistant Secretary Allen and Assistant General Corbin had been frequently mentioned by him as associates with him in the enterprise.

The committee finds that the charge made in the first paragraph of the resolution is not true. The facts in that connection being that "Colonel" then Major Heistand, about May, 1899, proposed to Major E. L. Hawkes, who had been a major of the Tenth volunteer infantry, a scheme for

establishing a manufacturing plant in Manila for the manufacture of the hemp product in those islands, and suggested that Major Hawkes take charge of it, which offer the latter accepted. The company then prepared a prospectus and blanks for the names of subscribers, but the incorporation of the company was never consummated. The committee finds that Heistand and Hawkes canvassed the possibility of interesting the government officials whose names are mentioned in the resolution. It is found that Heistand wrote Hawkes in 1899 as charged, sending documents and making suggestions about the Philippine tariff, but the committee said it sees the suggestions are capable of a different construction. "It is," says the report, "impossible for the committee to divine Colonel Heistand's intention when he said, 'Of course the needs of the future will be met as they require,' referring to the Philippine tariff."

The committee finds that Hawkes made a claim upon Heistand for compensation for his services, but the charge that Assistant Secretary Melickjohn guaranteed Hawkes a position in the government service in part settlement of this claim is not sustained by the committee, but it is found that Melickjohn did not, in 1899, appoint Hawkes to the position of inspector of the customs service in the Philippines, which appointment was revoked by Secretary Root in May following.

The other findings are: That while Heistand was the projector of the hemp combine, he was not authorized to represent the government or other officials were engaged with him, and it is not found that the tariff duties would be adjusted for their benefit; that the matter of the adjustment of the tariff was never mentioned directly or indirectly by Colonel Heistand to General Corbin, Assistant Secretary Melickjohn, Assistant Secretary Allen or Assistant General Boyd or Assistant Secretary Allen; that Heistand asked General Corbin to take stock and that the latter at first assented and then declined.

The testimony concerning the charge that Heistand had transferred from Assistant Secretary Allen and Assistant Secretary Melickjohn was repeated without comment, but the following is added:

"Your committee further finds that Assistant Secretary of War G. D. Melickjohn has not used government positions for the purpose of paying the private debts of any officer of the government."

The committee finds that the letter of recommendation of Hawkes, of date July 13, 1899, signed jointly by Colonel Heistand, Assistant Secretary General Boyd and Assistant Secretary Melickjohn was not signed officially by these officers, and also the words, "The government will look with favor on the same," meaning the enterprise, were not in the correct copy of that letter.

PRIVATE COINAGE

IS DISCOURAGED

An American Jailed in Ecuador for Using Mailed Checks.

Washington, Jan. 9.—D. C. Stapleton, an American, vice president and general manager at the mines in Ecuador, has been placed under arrest in Ecuador. Stapleton's friends here are unable to learn anything of a satisfactory character concerning the cause of his imprisonment.

A letter has been sent to Secretary of State Hay saying, under information received here by letter and cable from a reputable citizen at Ecuador, the government had arrested and imprisoned Stapleton in Ecuador for the offense of counterfeiting, he having used aluminum checks in paying his workmen, and for his refusal to pay money as required by law.

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C. J. HALL, Cashier. L. E. LARIMER, Assistant Cashier.

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